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A.—(*a*) (i) One.
(ii) None.
(*b*) None.
(*c*) One. No grants are sanctioned for the upkeep of Ayurvedic dispensaries.

Appointment of a woman medical officer for the treatment of venereal diseases.

* 558 Q.—Dr. S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of in and out female patients that attended the General and other Government hospitals in the City of Madras for the treatment of venereal diseases during the year 1926;

(*b*) whether any attempt was made to appoint a woman medical officer to look after such women patients in these hospitals; and

(*c*) if the answer to clause (*b*) be in the negative, whether the Government will be pleased to take immediate steps for the appointment of female medical officers for the purpose?

A.—(*a*) The information is furnished below:—

Name of institution.	Number of female patients treated during 1926. In-patients.	Number of female patients treated during 1926. Out-patients.
1. Government General Hospital.	113	435
2. Rayapuram Hospital	343	751
3. Royapetta ,, ...	37	170
4. Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital.	94	273
5. Hospital for Women and Children.	76	111

(*b*) There are lady doctors in the Royapetta Hospital, the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital and the Hospital for Women and Children to attend to such patients. Lady doctors have not been appointed to the General Hospital or the Rayapuram Hospital.

(*c*) The General and the Rayapuram Hospitals are used for the training of medical students. The majority of the students who attend the General Hospital and all those attending the Rayapuram Hospital are men. As these students must in the course of their training necessarily examine female patients, there is no urgent need for the appointment of lady doctors in these two hospitals. Female patients who object to being examined by male doctors can without difficulty go either to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital or to the Hospital for Women and Children.

Medical certificates for public servants.

* 559 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the head of a department can refuse requisition to a medical officer to examine a subordinate who applies to him for leave on the ground of illness;

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(*b*) whether after once sending such a requisition, the head of the department can cancel the same ;

(*c*) whether the certificate of illness granted by a registered practitioner is not sufficient ; and

(*d*) whether there is any circular issued by the Government to the heads of the departments (especially the Police Department) advising them not to accept certificates granted by any class of registered medical practitioners ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have not issued any specific orders on these points.

(*c*) A certificate of illness granted by a registered medical practitioner is ordinarily sufficient.

(*d*) There is no such circular. The Government have however declared that the head of an office will be at liberty to decline to accept, without the countersignature of the district surgeon, any medical certificate, unless it has been issued in compliance with a requisition from him.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Agency.

Construction of a bridge across the Seethapalliyeru river.

560 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether his attention was drawn to the question of constructing a bridge across the Seethapalliyeru at Seethapalli village where the main road to Chodavaram in East Godavari crosses Seethapalliyeru ;

(*b*) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government that all traffic has to cease whenever the Seethapalliyeru is in floods ;

(*c*) whether any estimate for the construction of the said bridge has been prepared ; if so, what the estimated cost is ;

(*d*) if such estimate has not been prepared whether the hon. Member will have one prepared ; and

(*e*) whether the construction of the bridge will be taken up ; and, if so, when ?

A.—(*a*) The construction of a bridge across the Seethapalli stream on the Chodavaram-Maredumilli Road in the East Godavari Agency is one of the works included in the programme of agency development.

(*b*) The Government have had no specific report to this effect but the fact is probably as suggested.

(*c*) The estimate for the work has not yet been received, but it has been roughly estimated to cost Rs. 10,000.

(*d*) Estimates are being prepared.

(*e*) Yes, as soon as the estimates have been sanctioned and allotment of funds made.